

later inducted into the NRB Hall of Fame. In 1994, Christian Today Magazine recognized the program as America's most popular live Christian call-in show.

Much of the longtime success of this program can be attributed to current host, Kerby Anderson, whose impressive background includes serving as the President of Probe Ministries and as the author of more than 25 books ranging from topics focused on media and technology, to economics and intelligent design. Cohost Penna Dexter shares the same devotion to God's truth as she provides listeners with weekly commentary focused on Christian conservative politics and prominent cultural issues affecting the family. Throughout it all, the Point of View team has remained steadfast in their commitment to sharing the truth of God to restore a Christian worldview and provide biblical wisdom in today's culture.

For 50 years, Point of View has brought needed attention to prominent issues while serving as a source of wisdom rooted in God's word. I offer my heartfelt congratulations to the Point of View team on this milestone anniversary and ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing their devoted service to truth and keeping God's word at the center of their message as they seek to enlighten the people of this Nation.

HONORING TEXAS STATE
SENATOR EDDIE LUCIO, JR.

HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 18, 2022

Mr. VELA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Texas State Senator Eddie Lucio, Jr., a man who has devoted his life to bringing dignity and prosperity to the people of the Rio Grande Valley.

Eduardo Andres "Eddie" Lucio, Jr. was born on January 20, 1946, in Brownsville, Texas. The second of ten children, Eddie grew up in the Bougainvillea neighborhood, where he learned the importance of hard work and a good education. He attended the University of Texas-Pan American in Edinburg, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Education. Eddie served as an educator and coached football, basketball, and track and field in the Brownsville Independent School District before running for office in 1971.

At the age of 25, Eddie became the youngest person ever to be elected County Treasurer in the State of Texas. He also served as Cameron County Commissioner before his first election to the Texas House of Representatives, where he represented the people of Brownsville from 1986 to 1990. He then successfully ran to represent District 27 in the Texas Senate, a position he held continuously for 31 years until he announced his retirement in 2022.

Eddie leads by example and believes that looking out for your neighbors, especially those who have fallen on hard times or are economically disadvantaged, is the heart of public service. He has assisted families who have lost their homes to fire with food, clothing, and rent, and he donates hundreds of Thanksgiving turkeys every year. After witnessing the destruction of Hurricane Harvey,

he purchased a food truck, which he operates with the help of friends and family to feed residents in remote locations when they are affected by natural disasters or other events such as the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. As a former educator, Eddie is a fierce advocate for students and teachers and is well-known throughout South Texas for his work to help young scholars, awarding thousands of dollars in scholarships from funds raised by his annual golf tournaments over the past 30 years.

In the State Senate, Eddie authored bills to increase public school funding, expand bilingual education, improve bus safety, ensure nutritious school lunches, and secure better pay for teachers. He also fought to improve access to higher education in the Rio Grande Valley. He was instrumental in the establishment of the University of Texas Regional Academic Health Center and helped fast-track the creation of the University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley and its groundbreaking medical school, which are helping to train the next generation of doctors and medical professionals in a medically underserved area of the country. To honor his countless contributions to education in the community, Brownsville ISD named Lucio Middle School after him in 1997.

Eddie has changed the landscape of South Texas. As Vice Chair of the Finance Committee, he worked to secure millions of dollars in state funding for infrastructure, which contributed to the designation of the first interstate highways in the Rio Grande Valley and addressed water and wastewater needs for colonias. He also introduced legislation in support of bringing the World Birding Centers to the area and building an artificial reef off the coast of South Padre Island, boosting tourism and ecotourism in the area. Eddie was an early advocate for bringing SpaceX to the region, knowing it would eventually spur a boom of economic development.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, Eddie's wife, Minnie; his children, Eddie Lucio III and Lynda; and his grandchildren, Eddie "Luc" Lucio IV and Olivia Rose, in thanking him for five decades of selfless dedication to his community.

HONORING THE OUTSTANDING
CAREER OF JANE BAIRD

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 18, 2022

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the distinguished career of Jane Baird, of Haddam, Connecticut. As the Senior Director of External Affairs, Jane celebrated a major milestone on January 14th, 2022, when she officially reached 20 years of dedicated employment and leadership with Connecticut Children's Medical Center. By coordinating relationships between the CCMC and its partners, Jane has truly proved her devotion to the health and welfare of Connecticut's children, ensuring a bright and healthy future for countless youth throughout the state.

Before the outset of her career with Connecticut Children's Medical Center, Jane began with her studies at Grinnell College, graduating in 1988 with a bachelor's degree in biology. Upon graduating, Jane went on to

study at Indiana University, graduating with a master's in public administration in 1993. Equipped with this robust education, Jane initially moved to and worked in Vermont as the Managed Care Administrator of the Office of Vermont Health Access for over 4 years. Jane then moved to the Vermont Division of Health Care Administration to be the Director of Quality Assurance and Consumer Protection, keeping to her tireless life-mission of ensuring those around her receive proper medical care.

In 2002, the Second District of Connecticut was lucky when Jane and her family discovered the area for their new home. Upon moving to the small town of Haddam, Jane launched her impactful career with CCMC as the Director of Government Relations. In this role, Jane was responsible for the maintenance of legislative relationships on behalf of the medical center, acting as a conduit between the medical staff at CCMC and the world of public policy. Jane approached this role with great passion, leading advocacy efforts with a wide variety of partners to promote healthcare policies that advance the growth and health of families and their children. Throughout her tenure, Jane has been an extraordinary force in the realm of Medicaid, injury prevention, and national health reform. Without Jane's leadership, I am sure that CCMC would not have had such an influential impact on the well-being of children in Connecticut and across the country.

In recognition of her hard-earned successes, Jane was promoted in 2016 to her current title of Senior Director of External Relations. Under this expanded leadership position, Jane has been instilled with a deeper connection to the promotion of healthy families and communities, taking up even greater, more creative efforts of advocacy. In doing so, she has successfully and dutifully managed communications with the medical center's many affiliates, including Hartford Public Schools and local YMCAs.

Since 2004, Jane has also been an active member of the Board of Directors at Southside Institutions Neighborhood Alliance in Hartford. A medium of cooperation between CCMC, Hartford Hospital, and Trinity College, the Alliance continues to serve a devoted mission toward improving the lives of people in South Central Hartford. In 2011, Jane was appointed Chairwoman to the Alliance as a result of her commitment to and advancement of the organization's core mission.

Madam Speaker, Jane's advocacy for children—characterized by understanding, patience, and perseverance—is a practice that I am grateful to represent in Connecticut's Second District. Throughout her 20 years of advocacy with Connecticut Children's Medical Center, and the years of work before that in Vermont, Jane has displayed how providing care to others involves more than what we often think of. Even after 20-plus years in the field, Jane's devotion to the children is as tireless as ever, a mark of true devotion for helping others in the world. For her unparalleled altruistic nature, I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in honoring Jane Baird, an unrelenting advocate and inspiring leader, setting her name, character and continued work further into stone.